

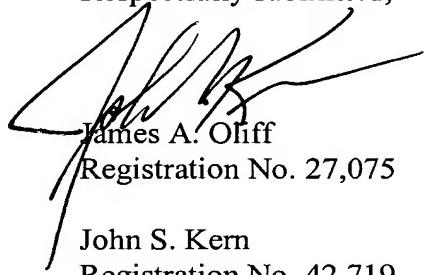
**REMARKS**

Claims 1-6 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, the Abstract, specification and claims 1-6 are amended. No new matter is added.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

John S. Kern  
Registration No. 42,719

JAO:JSK/kap

Attachments:

Substitute Specification  
Amended Abstract  
Marked-up copy of Application

Date: November 5, 2003

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

<b>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION</b> Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461
--